Open Air Policy

1124. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any evaluation of the open air policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the policy has adversely affected the safety of the passengers; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). A proposal to review the policy on domestic air transport services is under consideration of the Government.

Validity of World Network

1125. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether validity of World Network announced in July, 1996 has been questioned by the DOT;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether alliance between private companies who have joined hand to provide roaming and other facilities to consumers have come into effect;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof;

(e) whether this network flouted stipulations in licence agreement; and

(f) the time by which DOT likely to give its final decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. However, details in respect of the proposal reported in Newspaper were asked from the Cellular operators of metro cities. As per the replies received, World 1 network is only a brand name to a commercial alliance between Cellular operators.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a).

(c) to (e). No, Sir. World 1 Network does not hold a licence for Cellular Services. However, some proposals on roaming have been received from the licensed operators.

(f) The proposals received from individual licensed operators on roaming are under consideration.

Telephone Directories in Delhi

1126. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the year in which telephone directories in Delhi were issued last;

(b) the year in which the new telephone directories were scheduled to be issued;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) the time by which the above directories are likely to be issued;

(e) whether telephone directories are also not being issued in time in other cities of the country; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that the telephone directories are issued in time and corrigendum are issued in the meantime?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) In 1994.

(b) Every year.

(c) The Contractor has failed to print any directory after 1994 issue.

(d) Next directory is expected to be published in the year 1997.

(e) and (f). Whenever any abnormal delay in printing of directory is observed, necessary steps are taken in getting these printed either under Yellow Pages Scheme or on departmental cost.

[Translation]

Sale Target of B.S.P.

1127. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed and achievements made in sale of various products of Bokaro Steel Plant during 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(b) the amount payable in the form of taxes and cess against these bills, State-wise and particularly from Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) (a) The target fixed and achievements made in despatches for Pig Iron and Saleable Steel of Bokaro Steel Plant during 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto October 1996) are as follows :

(Unit : Tonnes

Item	1995-96		1996-97 (upto October' 96)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Pig Iron	186600	116560	112000	120223
Saleable Steel	3300600	3074935	1936000	1621043

(b) Information is being collected, and will be lai on the Table of the House.